



Responses to  
Circular Letter 4  
(18 June 2001)  
concerning

**Representivity of the World Heritage List -  
follow-up to the  
Resolution adopted by the Twelfth General  
Assembly of States Parties (1999)**



Délégation  
Permanente de la Belgique  
près  
l'U.N.E.S.C.O.

*L' Ambassadeur*

N°1169/5.88

Paris, le 19 octobre 2001

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Monsieur le Directeur,

Me référant à votre lettre CL/WHC.4/01 du 28 juin 2001, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir, en annexe, le rapport de la Belgique concernant la **Représentativité de la Liste du patrimoine mondial – suivi de la résolution adoptée par la douzième Assemblée générale des Etats parties (1999)**.

J'envoie également une version électronique de ce rapport à [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org).

Je vous en souhaite bonne réception et vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Directeur, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

*Yves Haesendonck*

Yves Haesendonck

Monsieur Francesco Bandarin  
Directeur  
Centre du patrimoine mondial  
Unesco  
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75700 Paris

16 octobre 2001

**Représentativité de la Liste du Patrimoine mondial**  
**Suivi de la résolution adoptée par la 12<sup>e</sup> Assemblée générale des Etats parties (1999)**  
**Rapport de la Belgique sur sa mise en œuvre**

La Résolution sur la Représentativité de la Liste du Patrimoine mondial adoptée par l'Assemblée générale en 1999 repose sur quelques principes essentiels. Voici comment les trois Régions de Belgique y ont répondu:

**1. Mise en œuvre d'une politique nationale du patrimoine (art. 5 de la Convention)**

Les trois Régions ont chacune développé une politique du patrimoine culturel et naturel très active. Leurs législations respectives s'inscrivent dans une politique globale de l'aménagement du territoire dont les principes directeurs sont la conservation intégrée et le développement durable. Leurs législations comprennent quelques mesures novatrices telles que les programmes de développement régionaux, des contrats pluriannuels de gestion ou des mécanismes d'inspection et de subvention favorisant l'entretien régulier des monuments plutôt que les restaurations.

Ces politiques du patrimoine répondent à une demande forte des citoyens qui marquent leur attachement au patrimoine notamment à travers des mouvements associatifs dynamiques et une participation massive aux activités de sensibilisation telles que les Journées européennes du Patrimoine. L'inscription des premiers sites belges sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial a suscité l'intérêt pour le patrimoine mondial en général et a donné lieu à de nouvelles formes de gestion en réseau et de manifestations pour la mise en valeur des sites.

**2. La révision des Listes indicatives**

Les débats sur la représentativité de la Liste du patrimoine mondial ont conduit les Régions à réviser et compléter la Liste indicative initiale. Ainsi ont été inclus les béguinages, les beffrois et l'hôtel Stoclet (patrimoine du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle), sites de valeur universelle exceptionnelle appartenant à des catégories encore sous-représentés sur la Liste.

Les Régions comptent approfondir la révision de la Liste indicative à travers une approche thématique, régionale et transfrontalière, conformément aux orientations indiquées dans la résolution de 1999.

**3. Accorder la priorité aux propositions d'inscription de biens actuellement sous-représentés sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial**

Dès la ratification de la Convention en 1996, les Régions ont accordé la priorité aux propositions d'inscription de biens appartenant à des catégories sous-représentées sur la Liste. En témoignent notamment les sites du Canal du Centre et ses ascenseurs hydrauliques (patrimoine industriel), les mines de Spiennes (site archéologique de l'époque néolithique), les beffrois de Flandre et de Wallonie ou encore les habitations majeures de Victor Horta (patrimoine du fin du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle).

**4. Ralentir le rythme des propositions d'inscriptions**

Cette ratification récente a entraîné un mouvement que l'on pourrait qualifier de rattrapage qui a permis de proposer des sites de typologie plus classique tels le centre historique de Bruges ou la Grand'Place de Bruxelles dont l'inscription sur la Liste était attendue depuis longtemps.

Le rythme des propositions s'est ralenti depuis et aucune proposition d'inscription n'a été soumise pour examen par le Comité en 2001 ou en 2002. Les trois Régions se concertent en vue d'échelonner les nouvelles propositions d'inscription.

**5. Renforcer la coopération régionale**

Dans la perspective de l'élaboration du rapport périodique sur la mise en œuvre de la Convention pour la région Europe/Amérique du Nord, des contacts ont été établis entre les responsables du Centre du patrimoine mondial et ceux de la Division du Patrimoine du Conseil de l'Europe. en effet, tous les Etats parties à la Convention appartenant au groupe Europe/Amérique du Nord participent également aux travaux du Comité du Patrimoine culturel du Conseil de l'Europe.

Le premier objectif consisterait à faciliter, pour les pays comme pour le Centre du patrimoine mondial, la collecte et l'analyse des informations sur les politiques nationales du patrimoine (première partie du rapport). L'outil HEREIN ([www.european-heritage.net](http://www.european-heritage.net)) – mis au point sous les auspices du Conseil de l'Europe - serait développé à cette fin et la Région flamande se propose de soutenir les ajustements nécessaires. Les trois Régions sont très favorables à cette coopération qui créerait des synergies et éviterait aux pays d'élaborer deux rapports: l'un pour le Conseil de l'Europe, l'autre pour l'Unesco. Cette coopération régionale pourrait donner lieu au développement accru d'échanges.

**6. Développer la coopération internationale**

Les trois Régions utilisent les accords de coopération bilatérale pour monter des projets de coopération dans le domaine du patrimoine et sont prêtes à développer ce type d'initiatives en particulier avec les pays dont le patrimoine est sous-représenté sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial. Le projet développé par la Région wallonne avec le Sénégal sur l'île St Louis peut illustrer cette approche.

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Subject:  
Date: Fri, 7 Sep 2001 11:17:53 +0200

07,sept.2001

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GUO ZHAN  
Secretary General  
ICOMOS/China

Inspector  
Department for Protection of Monuments & Sites  
State Administration of Cultural Heritage  
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Dear Colleagues:

Enclosed hereby with this letter to the Delegations to the World Heritage Committee is the viewpoints in principle from ICOMOS of China on the WHC.2001/2, 22 June 2001 ;°DRAFT ANNOTATED REVISIONS-Operational Guidelines For The Implementation Of The World Heritage Convention;±çð. B ;°The GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR A BALANCED AND REPRESENTATIVE WORLD HERITAGE LIST;±

We earnestly wish these ideas could be fully considered and, as positive supplement, be reflected in chapter in question.  
With best regard.

Yours sincerely

GUO ZHAN  
Secretary General  
ICOMOS/China

TO: Delegations to the World Heritage Committee

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Dear colleagues,

I remember very well the close cooperation we have had over the years. I believe you are aware of the huge impact the world heritage undertaking has on the promotion of the integration and exchange between China and the world, the improvement of the preservation of the environment and heritages of mankind. It has played an active role that surpasses all politics and the interests of all organizations and regions for the contemporary times and moreover, for the future generations. The great significance of the world heritage undertaking is embodied mainly in its lofty idea, scientific criterion, rigorous principles as well as the righteous and unswerving efforts of fellow colleagues.

I fully understand the proposal concerning limiting the number of applications for new world heritages in each year in the future raised by many colleagues in the World Heritage Committee in consideration of equilibrium and representativeness. I, too, fully agree that priority consideration should be given to the applications from countries with no or fewer world heritages in examining and approving nominations of new world heritages and even make more flexible criteria for such examinations and approvals.

Nevertheless, I strongly hold at the same time that it would be better not to limit the number of applications for each year. We should and can achieve this by giving consideration to equilibrium and representativeness of the distribution of world heritage undertaking and their objective criterion.

It would really be sad to think that certain sites up to the criterion of world heritage could not be duly entered into the world heritage List because of the limit of number, thus losing their reverence or even suffering from losses.

We would also be sad to see those high-valued and unimpeachable sites being unfairly treated, or that the objective criterion and norms for world heritage became muddled and confused.

I believe that none of us would oppose to continue to give attention and support to those countries and regions which have a long history, diversified natural conditions, multi-nationalities and rich cultural varieties but without a very developed heritage preservation undertaking. I am of the opinion that it would be appropriate to give consideration to the other factors under the precondition that we should always remember not to deviate from the fundamental aim and the scientific and nonpolitical nature of the world heritage undertaking. Therefore, I appeal to all of you, my dear colleagues, to agree with my

proposal not to limit the number of applications for world heritage for each year while giving full attention to equilibrium and representativeness,.

However, the countries with more world heritages shall be required not to or be limited to make applications for heritage varieties and representative sites that are already listed as world heritages and the criterion on their approval shall be strictly implemented.

At least, we should for the time being, defer the motion concerning limiting the number of applications for new world heritages before we have formulated the rules for implementation through full consultation and handle this matter properly.

Look forward to your understanding of and support to my appeal.

Best wishes to all of you.

Yours sincerely,

Guo Zhan  
Secretary General  
ICOMOS/China

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ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE DES ÉTATS PARTIES À LA  
CONVENTION DE PATRIMOINE MONDIAL

Considérations de Cuba sur la résolution adoptée par la XII<sup>e</sup>  
Assemblée générale des États parties à la Convention de  
patrimoine mondial (1999), intitulée « Moyens pour assurer la  
représentativité de la Liste du patrimoine mondial.

Soucieux de préserver la richesse et la diversité de son identité culturelle, le gouvernement de Cuba, par l'intermédiaire des institutions nationales pertinentes, a toujours veillé, dans l'application de sa politique culturelle, au maintien, à la conservation, à la restauration et à la divulgation du patrimoine culturel national, aussi bien à Cuba qu'à l'étranger. D'où la reconnaissance de toute action ayant pour but de sauvegarder l'œuvre patrimoniale au sens le plus large, et ce non seulement sur le territoire national, mais aussi partout dans le monde.

À cet égard, Cuba apprécie grandement l'action entreprise, depuis sa création, par l'Unesco et, plus récemment, par le Centre de patrimoine mondial.

La résolution de l'Assemblée générale des États parties à la Convention de patrimoine mondial, intitulée « Moyens pour assurer la représentativité de la Liste du patrimoine mondial » a bénéficié du soutien de Cuba qui, en conséquence, veille en permanence à son respect le plus rigoureux.

Pour ce qui est du paragraphe A, en particulier de ses alinéas ii) et iii), les mesures adoptées par Cuba sont dans le droit fil des stipulations établies par l'alinéa iv), à savoir garantir que la sélection et la présentation des propositions soient le fruit d'un travail fort rigoureux. L'alinéa v) n'est pas applicable dans le cas de Cuba, vu le caractère insulaire de ce pays.

En ce qui concerne le paragraphe B, la teneur de l'alinéa i) ne répond pas aux caractéristiques de notre pays, compte tenu du fait qu'il ne compte que six sites inscrits sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial. L'alinéa ii) a été appliqué par les institutions culturelles cubaines, notamment par le Conseil national de patrimoine culturel et par le Centre national de



conservation, de restauration et de muséologie, tout particulièrement dans le domaine de la formation.

Quant aux paragraphes C,D,E et F, il serait utile que le Centre de patrimoine mondial, en collaboration avec les organismes de consultation, les institutions spécialisées, les organisations et les pays potentiellement donateurs, ainsi qu'avec toute autre entité ou collectivité désireuse de participer à la récupération et à la sauvegarde du patrimoine universel, arrête une politique réelle de soutien et d'assistance aux pays faisant preuve d'un véritable intérêt et d'une évidente volonté politique en ce qui concerne la présentation au Comité de patrimoine des propositions de sites et de monuments à inclure et qui s'engagent d'ailleurs à donner suite à cette décision.

Un premier pas dans ce sens serait la réalisation d'une étude

Ministry of Education  
International Relations

14th September 2001

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Date 21/9/01  
Nº .....

Ref: CL/WHC.4/01

**Subject: Representivity of the World Heritage List - follow-up to the Resolution adopted by the Twelfth General Assembly of States Parties (1999)**

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Dear Mr Bandarin,

I am pleased to reply to your letter of the 28th June 2001 concerning representivity of the World Heritage List and the follow-up to the Resolution adopted by the Twelfth General Assembly of States Parties.

In general Finland considers the balancing of the World Heritage List as a very important matter. Finland strives through proper national and international actions for a more balanced and representative list.

#### Resolution paragraph A.i

The Finnish national legislation on spatial planning has been recently renewed. The New Land Use and Building Act, which came into force in January 2000, states that the preservation of nature and built environment shall be an integral part of spatial planning. In the new act the urban and land use planning has been geared to promote sustainable development. In addition, it promotes local people to take an active role in the planning processes of their environment. Respectively authorities are adopting a more transparent and interactive approach to spatial planning which guarantees a better co-operation in the future between the local people and decision-makers.

According to the National Architectural Policy, approved by the Finnish government in 1998, a special document on the "Strategy for Built Heritage" has been prepared. This document was approved by the Finnish government in June 2001.

Five main aims of the strategy can be mentioned:

1. Foster that the values of built heritage are transferred to citizens and further generations.
2. Guarantee the diversity and good maintenance for the built heritage.
3. Increase information and knowledge of built heritage.
4. Guarantee the economic conditions for good maintenance of built heritage.
5. Create an effective and client oriented management for questions concerning built heritage.

### **Resolution paragraphs A.iii, B.i and B.iii**

Finland belongs to the countries that have a substantial number of sites on the World Heritage List without being over-represented though. Bearing this in mind, Finland is revising its Tentative List, originating from the year 1990. The work is carried out by the National Board of Antiquities and the Ministry of Environment in co-operation with local experts of different sites.

Regional consultations with the other Nordic countries form also a natural part of the revising work. One important meeting between the Nordic countries was held in Copenhagen in October 2000 where the strategy of the Nordic countries regarding proposals for World Heritage Listing was examined thoroughly. The report of the meeting is enclosed to this letter.

In the future, submissions of Finland will clearly concentrate on the categories which are still under-represented in our country, e.g. buildings and sites from the 20th century, rural landscape, cultural landscape, industrial sites and North European prehistory. A revised Tentative List will be sent to the World Heritage Committee by the end of the year 2001.

### **Resolution paragraph B.ii**

Regarding international co-operation with States Parties to the World Heritage Convention negotiations are under way at the national level concerning promotion of activities and projects for cultural heritage preservation and restoration in developing countries through bilateral agreements. Projects on built heritage and preservation have already been carried out in Ethiopia and in Vietnam. Negotiations on possible cultural projects have also been carried out with Nepal.

Yours sincerely,



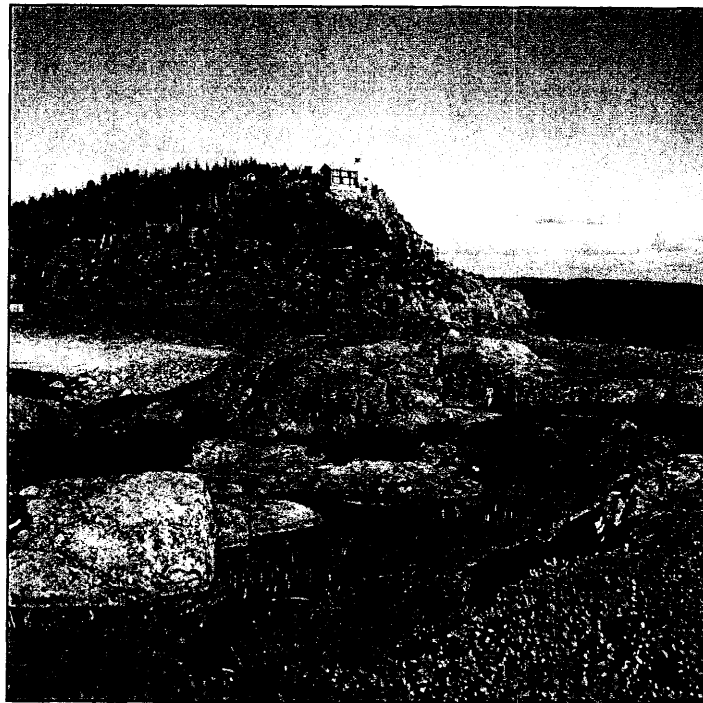
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cc:  
Ministry of the Environment  
National Board of Antiquities  
Permanent Delegation of Finland to UNESCO

# The Nordic World Heritage

## Report on the Strategy of the Nordic Countries regarding proposals for World Heritage Listing



The High Coast, Sweden  
*Photo: Lars Guvå*

### **Background**

- 1. The Nordic Council of Ministers Report, Nord 1996:31, The Nordic World Heritage. Proposals for new areas for UNESCO World Heritage List**
- 2. The Nordic Council of Ministers Report, TemaNord 1997:621: The Nordic World Heritage, Follow-up seminar, Iceland, August 1997**
- 3. The Nordic meeting on Tentative Lists, October 2000**

### **Appendix**



**Nordic World Heritage Office  
Oslo, January 2001**



## Background

The UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted 1972 is an international legal instrument which obliges the Signature States to ensure the protection, conservation and presentation to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage situated on its territory. The Nordic countries ratified the Convention between 1977 and 1995. Until 1996 all the sites inscribed on the World Heritage List from the Nordic Countries are cultural heritage sites. Although one of the characteristics of the Nordic Environment are the diverse natural landscapes, no natural heritage was included on the List until 1996, when the Laponian Area was successfully inscribed as a mixed, natural and cultural World Heritage site.

No	Name and location of the property	Category and type of site	Listed
1.	Urnes Stave Church, Norway	Cultural – Wooden church	1977
2.	Bryggen, Bergen, Norway	Cultural – Urban timber buildings	1979
3.	Røros Mining Town, Norway	Cultural – Urban timber buildings	1980
4.	Rock carvings, Alta, Norway	Cultural – Rock art	1985
5.	Old Rauma, Finland	Cultural – Urban timber buildings	1991
6.	Suomenlinna, Helsinki, Finland	Cultural – Fortress	1991
7.	Drottningholm, Stockholm, Sweden	Cultural – Royal palace and estate	1991
8.	Birka and Hovgården, Sweden	Cultural – Viking period estate	1993
9.	Engelsberg, Sweden	Cultural – Ironworks	1993
10.	Rock carvings, Tanum, Sweden	Cultural – Cultural landscape	1994
11.	The Woodland Cemetery, Sweden	Cultural – Cemetery with buildings	1994
12.	Petäjävesi, Old Church, Finland	Cultural – Old timber church	1994
13.	The Jelling Monuments, Denmark	Cultural – Monuments in stone	1994
14.	Hanseatic town of Visby, Sweden	Cultural – Urban environment	1995
15.	Roskilde Cathedral, Denmark	Cultural – Cathedral with mausoleum	1995

See also Appendix, Table 1.



*Urnes Stave  
Church, Norway*

*Old Rauma,  
Finland*

*Drottningholm,  
Sweden*

*The Jelling  
Stones,  
Denmark*

[www.nwho.grida.no](http://www.nwho.grida.no)

*Some of the first Nordic contributions to the World Heritage List*

In addition 14 nominated sites were under evaluation or sites on the Tentative List. See Appendix, Table 2.



*Verla Ground-wood and  
board mill, Finland  
[www.nwho.grida.no](http://www.nwho.grida.no)*

*Luleå Old Church  
Village, Sweden  
Photo: G.Hildebrand*

*Kronborg Castle,  
Denmark  
[www.kronborgslot.dk](http://www.kronborgslot.dk)*

*Three sites under nomination in 1995, today inscribed on the World Heritage List*

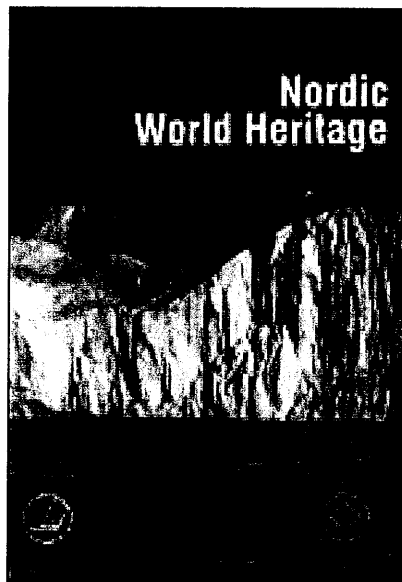
The twelfth General Assembly of State Parties to the Convention met this challenge of imbalance by approving the Resolution: “Ways and means to ensure a representative World Heritage List”, October 1999. The ways and means to harmonise this imbalance is also called the UNESCO’s Global Strategy. The Global Strategy is further on a central topic at the Nordic World Heritage Office’s “Proposals for Strategic Priorities – NWHO 1999 – 2001”, adopted by the NWHO Governing Board, January 2000. As a consequence, the attached Work-plan for NWHO 2000-2001, states as one priority activity to: “Organise regional and thematic meetings in order to develop tentative lists.”, in other words, to arrange a Nordic co-operative meeting on status and operation following the Council of Ministers’ Report Nord 1996:31: “The Nordic World Heritage”. This meeting was arranged in Copenhagen October 2000 with Skov- og naturstyrelsen, Denmark as hosts.

This report has been written by Hans-Jacob Roald, NWHO and it summarises the background for the Report Nord 96:31, the follow-up meeting in Iceland, August 1997, and the content and conclusion of the Copenhagen meeting.

## **1. The Nordic Council of Ministers Report, Nord 1996:31: The Nordic World Heritage**

### ***Proposals for new sites for the UNESCO World Heritage List***

In response to the imbalance and the under-representation of certain categories of heritage on the World Heritage List, on the whole and from a Nordic perspective, an interdisciplinary Nordic project was established under the authority of the Nordic Council of Ministers to address this imbalance. They focussed in particular on the identification of natural and cultural landscape sites in the Nordic Region for future nomination to the World Heritage List. As a result the report “Nordic World Heritage, Proposals for new areas for the UNESCO World Heritage List” (Nord 1996:31) was published in 1996, funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers and with contributions from the World Heritage Fund.



*Front page Report Nord 96:31  
Motive: The proposed site Jakobshavn Icefjord, Greenland  
Photo: Jon Suul*

The Report represents the first initiative to revise and harmonise the Tentative Lists through regional consultations. Furthermore, the objective of the report was to present Nordic proposals for possible future nominations of natural sites and cultural landscapes. National specialists selected and proposed sites situated in their country which were then examined by a Nordic working group who then examined these proposals as an entity from a Nordic perspective.

The work on the report had the gratifying consequence that Iceland pushed through its ratification of the Convention more quickly than it had intended. Iceland signed the Convention in December 1995 and a part of the project funds were reserved for Iceland's contribution.

Greenland, the Faeroe Islands and Åland were invited to participate and to prepare their proposals for World Heritage Listing. The sites proposed from Greenland were included in the Report.



The Report Nord 96:31 summarised the status for the World Heritage in the individual Nordic countries. Overviews were given of the existing World Heritage Sites as well as sites, which were either on the Tentative List, or in process of being nominated.

**The Report Nord 96:31 also comprised all the proposals for new sites put forward by the project group. The group proposed a total of 21 new World Heritage sites.**

(See the Chapter 3: The Nordic meeting on Tentative Lists in Copenhagen, October 2000)

**Denmark and Greenland** proposed four sites which vary from coastal landscape (the Wadden Sea in Denmark), a Norse landscape in southern Greenland and a Greenland hunting landscape, to an ice-bound arctic fjord with a “moving” landscape of icebergs.



*The Danish Forest and Nature Agency, Denmark  
[www.sns.dk/netpub/Vadehavet](http://www.sns.dk/netpub/Vadehavet)*

Five proposals were put forward from **Finland**, ranging from a freshwater archipelago in the east to a brackish-water archipelago in the west, along with unique mires in a mythical landscape, and a landscape containing important elements that aid the understanding of geological processes in Fennoscandia. Finally, there is an exceptional example of 20<sup>th</sup> century Nordic functionalism in the shape of architect Alvar Alto’s sanatorium at Pemar.

**Iceland** presented five proposals, a church built on turfs, “a historical thermal bath”, and a hot spring. The young Icelandic landscape is represented by the volcanic island of Surtsey, and by Lake Myvatn. The Landscape of Tingvellir was proposed because of the interplay between environmental qualities and the location of Alltinget.



*The cultural landscape of Tingvellir, Iceland*

**Norway** had four proposals, three of which are coastal, fjord and archipelago landscapes with related coastal cultural heritage, and the fourth is a boreal rainforest consisting of a coastal spruce forest.

**Sweden** had three proposals. An outstanding cultural landscape in Southern Øland, the vast unexploited archipelago in the Baltic sea close to Stockholm, and the unique raised coastline in Västernorrland, further north, which is important for the understanding of the geological processes connected to isostatic rebound.

The project group emphasised in particular cultural landscapes and natural heritage. Cultural landscape feature especially in the Nordic Countries where cultural monuments, living and past cultural traditions are to be found side by side and interacting with the natural surroundings. This focus addressed the lack of Nordic natural heritage on the World Heritage List.

In addition to the proposal of sites, the project group offered several general recommendations. Among these were:

- Faeroe, Iceland and Åland should carry out adequate scientific assessments of proposed World Heritage sites.
- The Sami cultural heritage should be considered as a joint Nordic matter.
- The Nordic countries should lend their support to the newly established network of owners, municipalities and other interested parties connected with the Nordic World Heritage sites.
- Considerations be given to extend the Hague Convention to include particularly valuable areas of the natural environment.
- The responsible national authorities should state explicitly the resources that are being invested into management of the respective World Heritage sites.
- The Nordic World Heritage Office should arrange a Nordic seminar based on this report.

## **2 The Nordic Council of Ministers Report, TemaNord 1997:621, The Nordic World Heritage, The Nordic follow-up seminar, Iceland, August 1997**

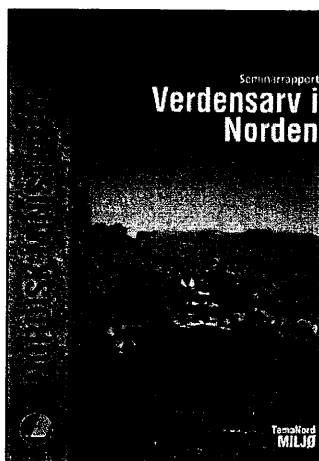
On August 1997 the Nordic World Heritage Office hosted a Nordic seminar planned and implemented in co-operation with Icelandic authorities. The Nordic Council of Ministers provided financial support for the event. A total of 31 representatives from the responsible authorities in the Nordic countries gathered for three days of lectures, discussions and a field trip. International speakers from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, IUCN and ICOMOS contributed to a review of the Nordic work in a global context.

Bernd von Droste, Director of the World Heritage Centre, highlighted that although the outside world considers the Nordic countries as a “heaven of nature”, only cultural properties had so far found their place on the World Heritage List. Among issues he brought forward, was the importance of the Member States to give priority to monitoring, and to ensure that up-to-date Tentative Lists existed at all times.

The seminar focused also on the Nordic follow-up of the World Heritage Convention. Seen in a Nordic perspective, the existence of outstanding universal values seen in a Nordic context were questioned and discussed. As a result of this discussion the value of further Nordic co-operation within the fields of identification, protection, conservation and management of the Heritage were underlined.

On the basis of the presentation and plenary discussions, the participants from the responsible authorities agreed to put forward the following recommendations for further work:

- The National Commissions for UNESCO and the responsible authorities in the Nordic countries are urged to participate actively in the revision and further development of the Convention’s set of criteria, as well as the Operational Guidelines.
- A Nordic co-operation project within the field of “World Heritage Management” should be initiated. The project should focus in particular on tourism.
- It was recommended that the Nordic World Heritage Office should consider publishing a Nordic Heritage List. The list could increase the significance of sites of national and Nordic importance that should be preserved, and thus contribute to strengthening Nordic co-operation in environmental protection.



*Front page report TemaNord 1997:621  
Motive: Tingvellir, Iceland*

### 3 The Nordic meeting on Tentative Lists in Copenhagen, October 2000

The Nordic World Heritage Office, in co-operation with the State Party of Denmark, invited the Nordic countries to a one-day meeting in Copenhagen, October 2000, in order to discuss follow-up activities related to earlier recommendations regarding the Tentative Lists. 19 representatives from the Nordic countries, the Nordic World Heritage Office and UNESCO World Heritage Centre participated at this meeting.

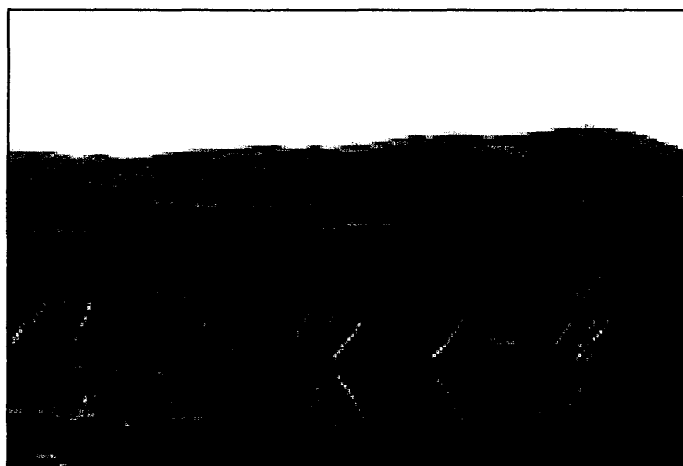
The agenda for the meeting was:

- (a) Changes in strategies related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
- (b) The state of the art concerning the follow-up work from the different Nordic States Parties
- (c) Decision concerning priorities with reference to the Tentative Lists

Since the Report Nord 1996:31 was published, eight new sites have been inscribed on the World Heritage List.

No	Names and location of the property	Category and type of site	Listed
16	The Laponian Area, Sweden	Cultural/Natural – Sami landscape	1996
17	Gammelstad Luleå, Sweden	Cultural – Old church village	1996
18	Verla, Finland	Cultural – Groundwood and board mill	1996
19	Karlskrona, Sweden	Cultural – Planned naval port	1998
20	Sammallahdenmäki, Finland	Cultural – Bronze age burial site	1999
21	The High Coast, Sweden	Natural – Landscape experiencing isostatic uplift	2000
22	Kronborg Castle, Denmark	Cultural – Historic important renaissance castle	2000
23	Southern Øland, Sweden	Cultural – Landscape with long cultural history	2000

As of December 2000, 23 Nordic World Heritage sites are now included on the World Heritage List.

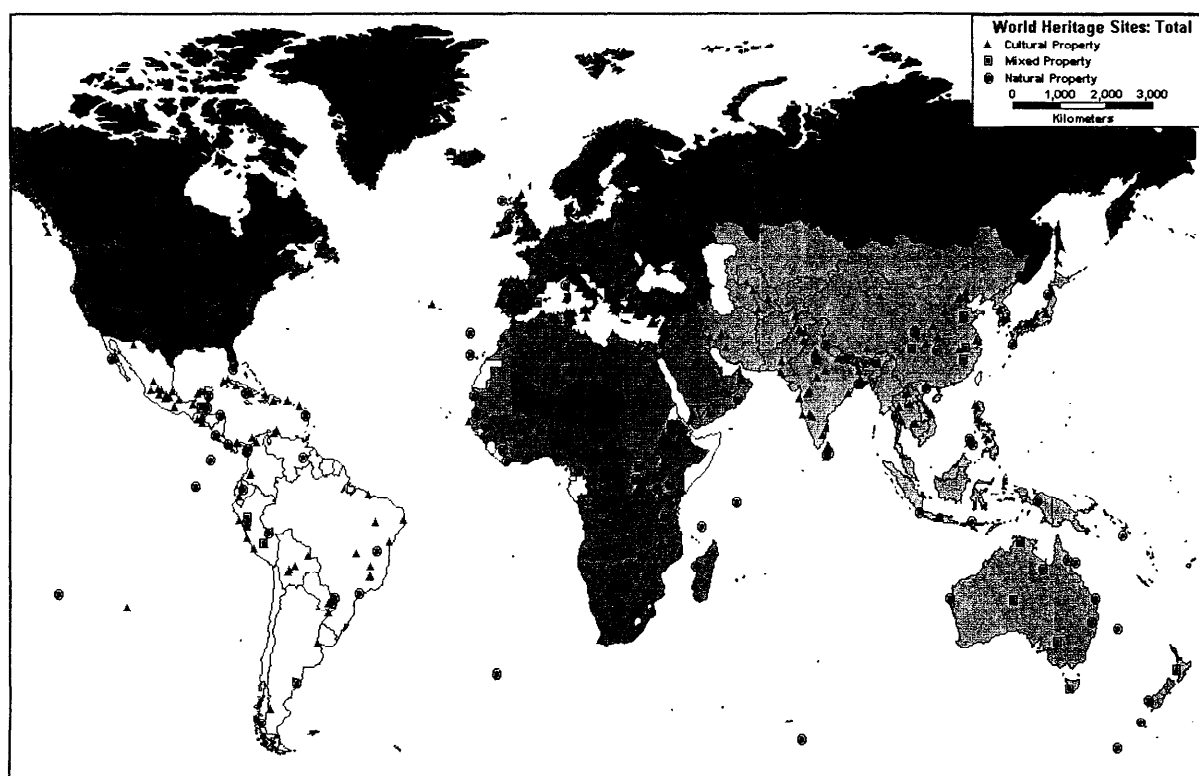


*The Laponian Area in Sweden, the first Nordic site to be inscribed on the List due to natural criteria*  
[www.nwho.grida.no](http://www.nwho.grida.no)

Denmark and Sweden have updated Tentative Lists, whereas Finland, Island and Norway have not presented Tentative Lists.

**(a) Changes in strategies related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.**

One major challenge regarding the implementation of the World Heritage Convention is the current imbalance and under-representation of certain categories of heritage on the List. Half of the sites on the World Heritage List are from Europe and North America and approximately 75% are cultural heritage sites. This weakens the global credibility of the Convention. To meet this challenge, the twelfth General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention (October 1999) approved a Resolution: “Ways and means to ensure a representative World Heritage List”. The resolution notes that the representative nature of the List has been the subject of numerous debates by the World Heritage Committee since 1979. It recognises that since the adoption of the Global Strategy in 1994, with a view to improve the representativity of the List, this objective has not been achieved. It recognises the interest of all the State Parties in preserving the authority of the Convention, by improving the representativity of the List.



*UNESCO, Bureau of the World Heritage Committee  
Twenty-fourth session, Paris, 26 June – 1 July, 2000  
Report of the Secretariat  
World Heritage Sites: Total*

The World Heritage Committee has, as a result, established four working groups. The first is a “Task Force on the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention” who’s goal is to identify and propose practical measures for ensuring the more effective operation of the Convention. The second is the “Work Group on the Representativity of the World Heritage List” who is examining possible changes to the decision-making process of the Committee in order to contribute to addressing the issue of under-representativity of certain types of heritage and the heritage of certain regions. This put special focus on the position and nature of the Tentative Lists as an instrument for long-term harmonisation of the List. The Nordic

countries are the only countries that so far have organised a regional co-operation on the development of Tentative Lists. The third is the “Working Group on Equitable Representation within the World Heritage Committee”. The fourth is the “Expert Meeting on the Revision of the Operational Guidelines, Canterbury, UK”. The Expert Meeting recommended that the Operational Guidelines should be rationalised, by providing a logical framework for all those implementing the Convention.

In addition a first generation of Periodic Reporting on the application of the World Heritage Convention is under preparation and implementation. Europe, which activities will be carried out in 2004-2005, must soon organise their strategy for Periodic Reporting and the Nordic countries should contribute to this activity due to their ongoing pilot project on Periodic Reporting and their well-established co-operation.

**In summary, the current activities related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention are strategically and contextually of highest importance with reference to the Convention’s future as an active and effective instrument.**

**(b) The state of the art concerning the follow-up work from the different Nordic States Parties**

**Finland:**

As of December 1995, Finland has three sites inscribed on the World Heritage List. (Appendix, Table 1)

In addition, four sites were nominated for inscription, and three sites were on the Tentative List. (Appendix, Table 2)

The Report Nord 96:31 recommended the following five new sites as candidates to the List:

<b>Name and location of the property</b>	<b>Category and type of sites</b>
The Koli landscape, Northern Carelia	Cultural/Natural – Distinctive natural and associated cultural landscape
Olvassuo mires, Oulu county	Natural – Mire complex with extensive aapa mire wilderness
Vasa archipelago, Vasa county	Natural – Archipelago formed by land emergence and displaying primary successions
Saimaa archipelago – Olofsborg, St Michel county	Cultural/Natural - Fragmented lake containing the Saimaa Grey Seal and a fortress (1475)
Sanatorium in Pöytä, Åbo and Björneborg county	Cultural – Functionalistic hospital complex designed by Alvar Alto

Since 1995 the nominated sites of Verla and Sammallahdenmäki have been inscribed.



*The WH Site of  
Sammallahdenmäki  
Early Bronze Age  
burial cairns  
[www.nwho.grida.no](http://www.nwho.grida.no)*

*From the 1995  
Tentative List:  
The Sanatorium in  
Pemar (arch A. Aalto).  
Photo: Solie Tirilæ /  
Museiverket*

As of October 2000, the following two archaeological sites were under preparation for nomination:

- Kastelli Jættikirkko in Pattijoki
- Hauensuoli (in Swedish Gæddtarmen) rock art in Hanko

Until further notice, the following sites are under discussion:

Sites from the 1995 Tentative List or proposed by the Report Nord 96:31:

- Astuvansalmi rock art in Ristiina
- Ukonsaari island in Lake Enari (Sami sacrificial site)
- Sanatorium in Pemar (architect Alvar Aalto).

New sites:

- The Senate Square in Helsinki
- Kæpylæ and Koskela suburbs in Helsinki (1920<sup>th</sup> and 1950<sup>th</sup>)
- Sunila factory with housing facilities (architect Alvar Aalto)
- Tammio archipelago village in Vehkalahti
- Retulansaari cultural landscape in Hallula

**Finland is giving priority to the establishment of a legal framework for potential tentative sites. Co-operation with local authorities is in this respect both demanding and important.**

#### **Sweden:**

As of December 1995, Sweden had six sites on the World Heritage List. (Appendix, Table 1)

Two sites were under nomination and two sites are to be included on the Tentative List. (Appendix, Table 2)

The Report Nord 96:31 recommended three new sites for inscription

Name and location of the property	Category and type of site
Stockholm archipelago, Stockholm county	Natural – Extensive, beautiful, largely unexploited archipelago that shows documentation of Earth history in the Quaternary era, land uplift, geological, ecological and biological processes.
Southern Øland, Kalmar county	Natural – Distinctive landscape with large areas of unusual natural environment including alvar vegetation and shore meadows
The High Coast, Västernorrland county	Natural - Land emergence coast of great geological and biological merit

Since 1995 Gammelstad Luleå, Laponia, Karlskrona, Southern Øland and The High Coast have been inscribed on the World Heritage List. (Karlskrona was not registered as a candidate in 1995). The Falu Mine is nominated. (The criteria for nominating Southern Øland were changed from natural to cultural criteria / cultural landscape, underlining the human settlement, making the optimum use of diverse landscape types on a single island.) The Markim culture landscape is under negotiation with the local farming authorities. Stockholm archipelago is still under evaluation.



*The cultural landscape of Southern Øland      Karlskrona*  
*Photo: Bengt Lundberg*

**In reference to the Global Strategy, for the time being the nomination of further cultural areas from Sweden is not on the agenda. Tentative List will be worked out as a result of possible new knowledge about the Heritage.**

**Denmark:**

As of December 1995, Denmark had two sites included on the World Heritage List. (Appendix, Table 1)

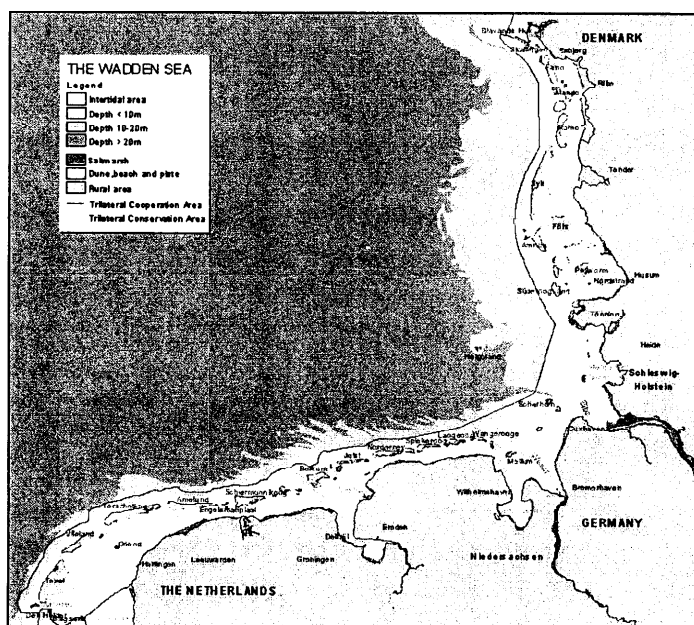
One site was nominated and two sites were tentative sites (Appendix, Table 2)

The Report Nord 96:31 recommended one new area for nomination:

Name and location of the property	Category and type of site
International Wadden Sea, Germany, The Netherlands and Denmark (Ribe and Sønderjylland)	Cultural/Natural – Distinctive natural and cultural landscapes with special kind of utilisation



Since 1995 Kronborg Castle has been re-nominated and was inscribed on the World Heritage List in December 2000. The Tentative List contains seven cultural heritage sites. **Work is going on in order to modify the Tentative List in accordance with UNESCO's Global Strategy.**



*The Trilateral Co-operation on the Protection of the Wadden Sea*  
<http://cwss.www.de>

Denmark is for the moment giving the Wadden Sea site the highest priority, as a combined cultural and natural site. However, the main part of the Wadden Sea is a natural site seen from a qualitative and quantitative perspective as the site covers all criteria for natural nomination. The area embraces a 350-km. long seashore involving the States Parties of Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. A project secretariat has been established in Wilhelmshaven in Germany. Local, regional and national circumstances and interests must be harmonised before an integrated and final nomination can be established. The nomination file will be discussed by a Ministerial meeting in October 2001. **For the time being, Denmark will not present new sites for World Heritage Listing.**

**Greenland:**

In the Report Nord 96:31 three sites were recommended for nomination

<b>Name and location of the property</b>	<b>Category and type of sites</b>
Hvalsø Church Ruin / Episcopal Residence of Gardar and Brattahlid, Narsaq and Qaqortoq municipalities	Cultural – Cultural landscape with ancient monuments
Aasivissuit / Arnagarnup Qoorua, Manitsoq and Sisimiut municipalities	Cultural – Cultural landscape representing the classical Eskimo occupation cycle
Jakobshavn, Isfjord, Disko Bay, Ilulissat municipality	Natural – Beautiful natural landscape exemplifying the process of a huge inland ice cap to drifting icebergs

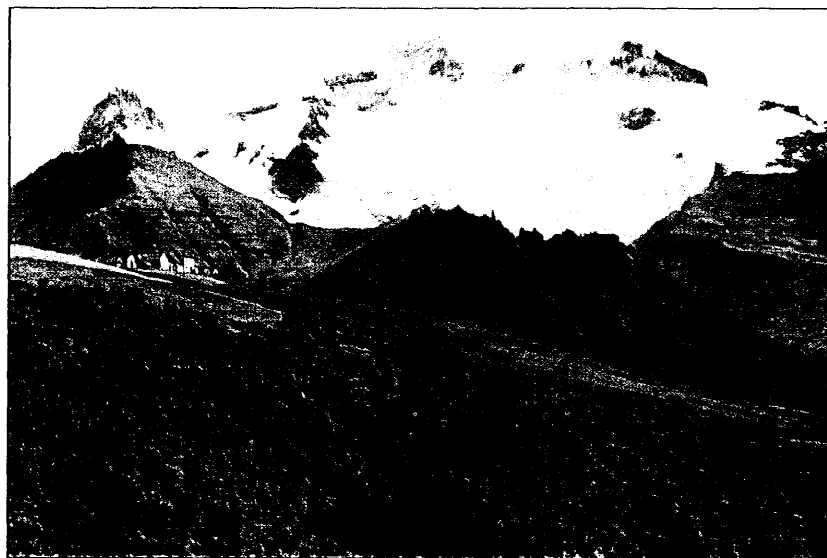
Changes have taken place concerning the state of authenticity regarding the Hvalsø Church Ruins and there are plans for commercial activities in the Aasivissuit sites. **The Jakobshavn, Isfjord site will be given priority for nomination.**

### **Iceland**

In the Raport Nord 96:31 five sites from Iceland were recommended for nomination.

<b>Name and location of the property</b>	<b>Category and type of site</b>
Myvatn-Laxa, Skutustadar-hreppur	Natural – Distinctive bird biotope; volcanic landscape
Surtsey, Vestmannaeyjar	Natural – Young volcanic island with great biological interest
Tingvellir, Arnessysla	Cultural/Natural – Distinctive landscape with outstanding natural history (unique geological and geomorphological processes and beautiful and mystical forms) and outstanding cultural history (The old Althing)
Vidimyri Turf Church, Seyluhreppur	Cultural – Unique traditional building techniques
Snorralaus, Reykholtshreppur	Cultural – Hot springs linked with historical events

Work is being carried out in order to establish a common ground for the development of a Tentative List and eighteen sites are involved in this process. **The sites Tingvellir and Skaftafjell (not mentioned in the Report Nord 96:31) will be given the highest priority for future nomination.**



*The cultural landscape of Skaftafjell, Iceland*

### **Norway**

As of December 1995, Norway has four sites on the World Heritage List. (Appendix, Table 1)

No other sites were nominated or added to the Tentative List.

The Report Nord 96:31 recommended four new sites for nomination:

Name and location of the property	Category and type of site
West Norwegian fjord landscape, Counties of Møre & Romsdal and Sogn & Fjordane	Cultural/Natural – Dramatic fjord landscape as basis for ecological and biological processes and traditional place specific land-use
Coastal spruce forest in Almdal, Nord-Trøndelag county	Natural – Coastal spruce forest in unspoilt, open countryside, representing biological diversity and many rare plants
North Norwegian archipelago, Nordland county	Cultural/Natural – Saltwater archipelago with thousands of islands, islets and skerries, with great aesthetic values, ornithological significance and a long coastal culture
North Norwegian fjord landscape, Nordland county	Cultural/Natural – Cross section of Quaternary geological processes, a natural landscape of magnificent contrasts and representative cultural monuments



*North Norwegian archipelago of Vega  
Photo: Rita Johansen*

With reference to the coastal sites, it has been necessary to elaborate a public coastal development strategy in order to harmonise the interests of the heritage and the fishing industry. **In Norway, the national authorities have taken initiatives to establish a satisfactory legal framework for the potential tentative list sites.**

**There was a consensus at the meeting that updated Tentative Lists are a condition for further regional co-operation in accordance with the recommendations given by UNESCO's Global Strategy.**

**(c) Decision concerning further priorities with reference to the Tentative Lists**

***There was a complete agreement among the representatives from the Nordic countries at the meeting to update the Tentative Lists for cultural and natural heritage sites with reference to UNESCO's World Heritage Convention and the Resolution "Ways and means to ensure a representative World Heritage List" adopted by the twelfth General Assembly of the States Parties of the Convention, October 1999.***

## Appendix

**Table 1**  
**Nordic areas and objects on the World Heritage List as of December 1995**

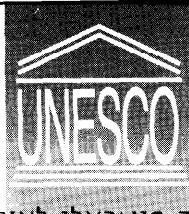
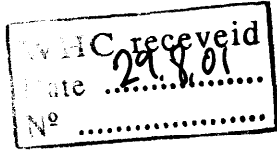
No.	Name of area	Municipality - County - Country	Type of site	National protection status	Listed
1.	Urnes Stave Church	Luster Sogn & Fjordane Norway	Timber church Ca. 1150	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act	1977
2.	Bryggen in Bergen	Bergen Hordaland Norway	Urban timber buildings from the Middle Ages	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act	1979
3.	Røros Mining Town	Røros Sør-Trøndelag Norway	Urban, timber buildings. 17th century mining community	90 buildings protected through the Cultural Heritage Act	1980
4.	Rock carvings in Alta	Alta Finmark Norway	Rock art. Five areas 4200 - 500 BC.	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act	1985
5.	Old Raumo	Raumo Åbo & Björneborg Finland	Large, urban area of timber buildings developed within a Medieval plot and street pattern	Urban Plan approved in 1981	1991
6.	The fortress of Suomenlinna (Sveaborg)	Helsinki Nyland Finland	Fortress from 1748 at the entrance to Helsinki harbour; a living part of the city	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63), Regulation Plan approved in 1974, Revised Regulation Plan of 1996	1991
7.	Drottningholm Palace and Estate	Ekerö Stockholm Sweden	Palace Estate - 18th century, with park, palace, theatre, Chinese Palace, etc.	Protected as a National Historical Monument	1991
8.	Birka and Hovgården	Ekerö Stockholm Sweden	Viking period town and royal estate	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act and nationally through the Natural Resources Act	1993
9.	Engelsberg Ironworks	Fagersta Västmanland Sweden	Ironworks with buildings from 17th to 19th centuries	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act	1993
10.	Rock carvings at Tanum	Tanum Göteborg & Bohus Sweden	Cultural landscape with Bronze Age rock carvings; about 400 carvings	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act; national interests also through the Natural Resources Act	1994
11.	The Woodland Cemetery (Skogskyrkogården)	Stockholm Stockholm Sweden	Woodland Cemetery with buildings from 1920-1940	Protected through the Cultural Heritage Act	1994
12.	Petäjävesi Old Church	Petäjävesi Mellersta Finland Finland	Timber church from 1763-64; well- preserved example of the Nordic traditional timberconstruction	Protected through the Church Act (1054/94)	1994
13.	Jelling Complex of Monuments	Jelling Veje Denmark	Complex of historical cultural monuments	Protected through the Nature Conservation and Churches Acts and by a Local Preservation Plan	1994

No.	Name of area	Municipality - County - Country	Type of site	National protection status	Listed
14.	Hanseatic town of Visby	Gotland Gotland Sweden	Hanseatic town with ramparts. Buildings from 1200-1800. Medieval street plan preserved	Many buildings preserved as historical monuments; rampart and ruins protected through the Cultural Heritage Act; national interests through the Natural Resources Act; town plan through the Planning and Building Act	1995
15.	Roskilde Cathedral	Roskilde Roskilde Denmark	Stone-built cathedral With royal mausoleum	Protected through the Churches Act and by a Local Preservation Plan	1995

**Table 2.**  
**Nordic Nominated (N) and tentative (T) areas as of December 1995**

No.	Name of area	County municipality	Type of site	National Protection Status
16. (N)	<u>Denmark</u> Kronborg	Frederiksborg Helsingør	Renaissance castle with ramparts	Protected through the Preservation of Buildings Act. Local Preservation Plan is being drawn up
17. (T)	Amalienborg Frederiks- staden	Copenhagen Copenhagen	Cultural area; city district planned and constructed during the latter half of the 18th century	Protected through the Preservation of Buildings Act and a Local Preservation Plan
18. (T)	Rosenborg Palace and Gardens	Copenhagen Copenhagen	Cultural area; hunting lodge and gardens	Protected through the Preservation of Buildings Act and a Local Preservation Plan
19. (N)	<u>Finland</u> Sammallahti (formerly Huiluvuori)	Åbo & Björneborg Lappi,	Ancient monument consisting of 33 Early Bronze Age burial cairns	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63)
20. (N)	Rapola hillfort and cultural landscape	Tavastehus Valkeakoski	Cultural landscape and ancient monuments from the Early Iron Age to historical times	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63) Landscape Protection Area. Nationally as a Coastal Protection Area
21. (N)	Gäddtarmen	Nyland Hangö	400 rock carvings from historical times	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63)
22. (N)	Verla Ground- wood and board mill	St. Mickel Jaala	Important industrial monument from the early wood-processing industry	Protected through the Protected Buildings Act (485/85)
23. (T)	Rock paintings near Astuvan- salmi	St. Mickel Kristina	Rock paintings from the early hunting period (3000-1500/750 BC)	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63)
24. (T)	Ukonsaari sacrificial site	Lapland Enare	Sami sacrificial site on the island of Ukonsaari on Lake Enare	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63)
25. (T)	Kastelli Jättekyrka	Uleåborg Pattijoki	Huge embankment, stone settings and pitfalls used by Stone Age man when hunting seals	Protected through the Ancient Monuments Act (295/63)

No.	Name of area	County municipality	Type of site	National Protection Status
26. (N)	<u>Sweden</u> Old Church Village	Norrbottn Luleå	Church village with Medieval church and 400 small houses from 17 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> centuries	Protected through areal regulations in the Planning and Building Act and the Cultural Heritage Act; national interests through the Natural Resources Act
27. (N)	Lapland Area	Norrbottn Gällivare and Jokkmokk	Nature and culture, unspoilt nature, Sami culture	90% of the area is National Parks and Nature Reserves; the remainder through the Nature Resources Act (continuous mountains). Sami ancient monuments protected through the Cultural Heritage Act
28. (T)	Falu Mine	Kopparberg Falun	Mine worked for copper from the Middle Ages until recently	Protected as a Building Monument through the Cultural Heritage Act
29. (T)	Cultural landscape at Markim Orkesta	Stockholm Vallentuna	Cultural landscape with well-preserved relicts of unbroken occupation from the Bronze Age to the present day	National interests through the Natural Resources Act. Churches protected through the Cultural Heritage Act. Protection through areal regulations in the Planning and Building Act is being discussed



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29.8.2001

RB → Isabella x Band  
→ Minge

Desk officer / IUCN / ICOMOS

✓ Mr Francesco Bandarin  
Director  
World Heritage Centre  
UNESCO

21 August 2001  
Ref. WHCPOLICY

Dear Francesco,

re: Representativity of the World Heritage List

Further to your letter of 28 June 2001 to the Israel Heritage Committee submit our comments related to paragraphs A-C of annex I.

We look forward to the process review which will take place by WHC at its next meeting in Helsinki.

Sincerely yours

Michael Turner  
Hon Chair, Israel World Heritage Committee

Copy: :HE Yitzhak Eldan, Ambassador to UNESCO  
Mr Peter King, President, WHC  
Daniel Bar-Elli, Secretary-General Israel National Commission for UNESCO



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**REPRESENTATIVITY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST  
follow-up to the resolution adopted by the twelfth  
general assembly of state parties - 1999  
CL/WHC.4/01**

**Annex II - A**

- (i) Cultural and natural heritage as a function in the life of the community and to integrate the protection of that heritage into comprehensive planning programmes;

The Israel World Heritage Committee has representation from all relevant Government Ministries and NGO's, specifically the Ministry of Interior responsible for Local Government and Planning, the Council for the Preservation of Sites and the Israel Architects Association. The NGO's responsible for Nature are also active in the integration of the conservation of natural heritage in national and district planning. The IWHC has translated into Hebrew the Convention and the Guidelines and prepared a manual with other relevant material for the wider use of the professional and academic public. The three schools of architecture, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, have been lobbied to ensure that basic conservation courses are part of the curriculum.

- (ii) Measures to redress the imbalance and improve representativity;

These measures are addressed in the following paragraphs.

- (iii) Re-examine the tentative list in the light of methodology developed and regional and thematic definitions by focusing on categories of heritage that are under-represented;

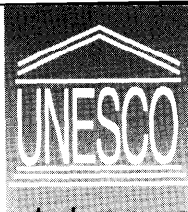
The Israel World Heritage Committee, reviewed the state tentative list as proposed and is recommending two basic changes:

- 1 The addition and/or the redefinition of cultural sites that relate to technological ensembles, being an under-represented category as defined by ICOMOS;

a Tel Dan -

A complete city-gate from the 2nd millennium BCE, with three intact arches built of mud bricks. These are the earliest wide-span complete arches known to science - archaeology, architecture and engineering.





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- b Early Water Installations  
The water installations of the archaeological sites in Israel are of outstanding works that are evidence of the technological advances made by the society. While they are, for the most part, included in the Biblical Tel, they should be considered as an item by themselves.

2 The development of cultural landscapes and routes. This relates to regional thematic definitions and cultural routes which were identified as a separate group in the Tentative List.

- a The Spice Route will be renamed linking it to the inscribed sites of other states party
- b Other landscapes are to be identified especially those of Biblical significance and those representing the Nabatean cultures.

(iv) Establishing outstanding universal values for the Tentative List;

The Israel World Heritage Committee- IWHC- has established a sub-committee with advisors from the academic and professional community to discuss the issues of universal significance in the Tentative List and make adjustments where necessary. In the preparation of nominations, the Committee has adopted a resolution whereby an external review will be adopted at the National level to ensure 'quality control'.

Israel welcomes the new categories prepared by ICOMOS for the cultural heritage and will reorganise the Tentative List accordingly during the coming year.

Nevertheless, the IWHC feels that the criteria regarding the Natural heritage as applied by the IUCN is not clear and a more consistent policy should be prepared that might be based on obligatory Natural Tentative Lists from all State Parties. This would give a clearer indication of the sites to be nominated. Furthermore there is a need for regional and local consultation to ensure a true representation of the natural sites.

(v) Priority to nominations resulting from regional consultations in under-represented categories, highlighting the interaction between human beings and their environment and in their society, expressing the diversity and richness of living or past cultures;

The Tentative List of Israel is innovative in that it identifies trans-national and serial nominations of regional importance. To this end, technical assistance was requested in 2000 for the harmonisation of sites around the Dead Sea. Furthermore, the proposal for the Experts Meeting on The Great Rift Valley will promote these regional cooperation while the reassessment of cultural landscapes in Israel will highlight the interaction between human beings and their environment.



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## **Annex II - B**

Not presently relevant. We agree that once a State Party has presented the base nominations of the Tentative List a 'slow-down' should be accepted. Israel accepts this principle.

## **Annex II - C**

### **(i) Priority to the Tentative List and nominations**

Israel presented its Tentative List to the WHC in 2000 and was accepted at the meeting in Cairns, Australia. As a country, to date, with no sites on the World Heritage List, Israel is proposing to nominate in the years 2000-2003 up to ten sites.

### **(ii) Initiation and consolidation of partnerships on the exchange of technical expertise at a regional level.**

Israel has initiated a partnership of countries to discuss the Great Rift Valley, the concept of a serial nomination and exchange of technical expertise. The first preliminary experts meeting is planned to take place in 2002 to be organised by IUCN with participation of representatives from WHC, ICOMOS and ICCROM. The proposal is attached to this report.

### **(iii) Encourage cooperation to increase expertise in the protection and management of heritage;**

To this end the State Party is supporting the ICOMOS Experts Meeting on the Management of Archaeological Sites to allow local observers to understand the Cultural issues involved. Furthermore the proposed Experts Meeting on The Great Rift Valley will be another opportunity for professional in the fields of Nature.

### **(iv) Participation in the World Heritage Committee meetings.**

On ratifying the Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972, Israel immediately established a National World Heritage Committee. The Committee brings together the relevant Government Ministries and Authorities together with professional and academic representation and NGO's responsible for the conservation of cultural and natural heritage, notably the local chapter of ICOMOS. The Committee operates and sponsored by the Israel National Commission for UNESCO and the Convention is considered by Israel as important tool for the developing respect and protection of heritage and cultural diversity in the country. In addition, Israel will consider participation in other experts' meetings where possible.

De: Délégation Japon <deljpn.rec@unesco.org>  
Date: vendredi 14 septembre 2001 17:22  
À: Dhumal, Nina <N.Dhumal@unesco.org>  
Cc: Délégation Japon <deljpn.clt@unesco.org>  
Objet: progress report

Madam,

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the progress report of the Government of Japan concerning the Representativity of the World Heritage List--follow-up to the Resolution adopted by the Twelfth General Assembly of States Parties (1999).

Please accept, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

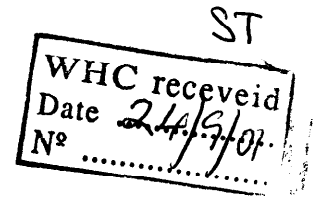
Akihiro TAKAZAWA (deljpn.clt@unesco.org)

## Brief Progress Report (Japan)

1. In 2000, the Government of Japan examined the tentative list and added new three sites on it: “Historic Monuments and Sites of Hiraizumi”, “Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range, and Cultural Landscapes that Surround Them” and “Historic Silver Mine of Iwami Ginzan”. These new sites are selected from new categories such as cultural landscape and industrial site according to the Global Strategy. A site nominated by Japanese Government in the future will be selected from these new categories.
2. The Government of Japan organised a Regional Thematic Expert Meeting on Sacred Mountains in Asia, inviting experts from Asian and Pacific countries to discuss criteria for the evaluation of Asian Sacred Mountains as World Heritage Cultural Landscapes between 5-10 September 2001 in Wakayama City. It is expected that the result of this meeting will promote the inscription of Sacred Mountain in Asia on the World Heritage List.



Delegación Permanente de España  
en la UNESCO  
PARIS



Nº 288

París, 20 de septiembre de 2001

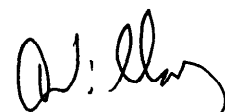
Sr. D. Francesco Bandarin  
Director del Centro del Patrimonio Mundial  
CASA UNESCO

**Asunto: Representividad de la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial. Aplicación de la resolución adoptada en la 12ª Asamblea General de los Estados partes (1999).**

Señor Director:

En relación con su carta CL/WHC.4/01, de 28 de junio de 2001 sobre el asunto de referencia, me complace enviarle el Informe sobre las medidas adoptadas por el Estado Español para contribuir al equilibrio y representividad de la Lista del Patrimonio Mundial.

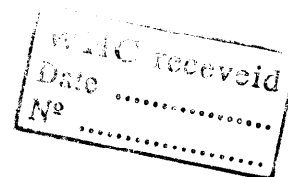
Aprovecho la ocasión para manifestarle el testimonio de mi consideración más distinguida.



Francisco Villar  
Embajador de España



Delegación Permanente de España  
ante la UNESCO  
PARIS



## INFORME SOBRE LAS MEDIDAS ADOPTADAS POR EL ESTADO ESPAÑOL PARA CONTRIBUIR AL EQUILIBRIO Y REPRESENTATIVIDAD DE LA LISTA DEL PATRIMONIO MUNDIAL

Este informe está dirigido a analizar de forma breve la aplicación en España de la *Resolución aprobada por la duodécima sesión de la asamblea general de los estados partes del convenio relativo a la protección del patrimonio cultural y natural, París, 28-29 de octubre de 1999.*

En primer lugar se analizarán, uno por uno, aquellos apartados dirigidos a los Estados y en segundo lugar se desea expresar la opinión del Estado español sobre la necesidad de aplicar de forma moderada estas disposiciones y especialmente las de la *Informe de la vigésimo cuarta sesión del comité del patrimonio mundial, Cairns, Australia (27 de noviembre – 2 de diciembre de 2000).*

**1.-Análisis de** *La Resolución aprobada por la duodécima sesión de la asamblea general de los estados partes del convenio relativo a la protección del patrimonio cultural y natural, París, 28-29 de octubre de 1999.*

### **Punto A.**

#### **'Invita a todos los Estados partes a:**

*iii) Elaborar o volver a examinar sus listas indicativas a la luz del acervo metodológico y de las definiciones regionales y temáticas privilegiando las categorías de bienes aún sub-representados en la Lista,'*

El Estado español ha cumplido con esta 'invitación' por cuanto ha reducido el número de bienes de su lista Indicativa de 122 a 53. Se considera que debe valorarse dicha reducción debido al alto coste político que este tipo de decisiones tiene en un país como España, descentralizado políticamente y muy concienciado a nivel social del valor de este tipo de declaraciones.

*v) Someter, prioritariamente, propuestas de inscripción que resulten de acuerdos regionales en categorías sub-representadas que pongan en relieve la interacción del hombre y de su entorno y de los hombres en sociedad expresando así la diversidad y riqueza de las culturas vivas y antiguas.*

El Estado español tiene actualmente en la Lista Indicativa determinados itinerarios culturales que pretende que en su momento se presenten conjuntamente por varios países de las dos áreas en las que España tiene una mayor proyección cultural, el Mediterráneo e Iberoamérica. Por ejemplo pueden destacarse en el Mediterráneo el *Patrimonio Cultural Judío*, y la *Ruta del Vino y la cultura en los pueblos mediterráneos* y en Iberoamérica la *Ruta Colombina*.



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### **Punto B**

***'Invita a los Estados partes que ya tengan un número importante de emplazamientos inscritos en la Lista del patrimonio mundial a:***

*i) Aplicar las disposiciones del párrafo 6 (vii) de las Orientaciones que han de guiar la instauración del Convenio del patrimonio mundial:*

*a) escalonando voluntariamente sus propuestas de inscripción según las modalidades necesarias, o*

El Estado español se comprometió a presentar una sólo candidatura nueva por año. Como ejemplo de esta decisión debe destacarse que ya en Junio de 2000 el Estado español únicamente presentó una nueva candidatura *El Paisaje Cultural de Aranjuez* y la ampliación de otro bien declarado, *el Mudejar de Aragón*, que evidentemente no alteraría, si fuese declarado, la representatividad y el equilibrio de la Lista.

*b) proponiendo únicamente bienes que pertenezcan a categorías aún sub-representadas, o*

Si se analiza la Lista Indicativa española se observa que los bienes incluidos en la misma son mayoritariamente de categorías subrepresentadas.

*c) acompañando cada una de sus propuestas de inscripción de una cooperación para elaborar una propuesta de inscripción que emane de un Estado parte cuyo patrimonio esté sub-representado, o*

El Consejo de Patrimonio Histórico decidió en su reunión de 13 de Julio de 2001 fomentar este tipo de cooperación a través de ICOMOS. Esta organización se comprometió a canalizar hacia las Comunidades Autónomas proyectos de candidaturas de Estados sub-representados, y las Comunidades Autónomas se mostraron dispuestas a apoyarlas.

*d) decidiendo, con una base voluntaria, una suspensión de nuevas propuestas de inscripción e*

El Estado español decidió aplicar esta suspensión en diciembre de 2000, momento en el cual no presentó ninguna candidatura.

*ii) Desarrollar y favorecer cooperaciones bilaterales y multilaterales con los Estados partes cuyo patrimonio está aún sub-representado en la Lista en el marco de la preparación de listas indicativas, de propuestas de inscripción y de programas de formación,*



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Como ya se ha indicado el Consejo de Patrimonio Histórico decidió en su reunión de 13 de Julio de 2001 fomentar este tipo de cooperación a través de la colaboración de ICOMOS y las Comunidades Autónomas.

Al mismo tiempo España negocia en la actualidad un acuerdo de cooperación y de asistencia técnica con el Centro del Patrimonio Mundial. Su objetivo primordial es favorecer la cooperación bilateral y multilateral con los Estados partes cuyo patrimonio está subrepresentado. Naturalmente ello incluye la preparación de listas indicativas, la elaboración de propuestas de inscripción y el desarrollo de programas de formación.

- iii) *Dar prioridad a un nuevo examen de sus listas indicativas en el marco de acuerdos regionales y a la preparación de informes periódicos.*

El Estado español ha cumplido con esta 'invitación' al reducir su lista indicativa de 122 a 53 bienes y debe indicarse además que el Estado español ha comenzado ya a preparar el informe periódico que debe entregar en 2004-2005. En concreto el Estado Español ha encargado este trabajo a ICOMOS-España estableciendo un programa de trabajo de cuatro años en el cual van a colaborar las Comunidades Autónomas.

**2.- Opinión sobre la aplicación del Informe de la vigésimo cuarta sesión del comité del patrimonio mundial, Cairns, Australia (27 de noviembre – 2 de diciembre de 2000).**

El Estado español es partidario de una aplicación moderada y progresiva de las medidas decididas por el Comité del Patrimonio Mundial. No se debe caer en el automatismo, imponiendo medidas obligatorias, hasta que la lista del Patrimonio Mundial se encuentre matemáticamente equilibrada.

Es necesario tener en cuenta la necesidad de mantener, por parte de la sociedad española, un grado alto de concienciación para la adecuada conservación del Patrimonio Cultural y Natural. Medidas de moratoria rígidas tendrán un impacto negativo en la sensibilidad alcanzada en España para la protección del Patrimonio Cultural y Natural.

El Estado español considera que el hecho de que España sea el país con más bienes incluidos en la Lista del patrimonio Mundial no solo se debe al gran Patrimonio que posee, sino sobre todo al deseo de la sociedad de protegerlo, a la colaboración del Estado español con la UNESCO y a la gran utilidad que este tipo de declaraciones ha tenido en España para plantear políticas de conservación del Patrimonio.

El Estado español desea transmitir al Centro del Patrimonio Mundial que en España se han generado unas expectativas que no sería conveniente defraudar, si se quiere proteger efectivamente el Patrimonio.

Aunque el Estado español es consciente de la necesidad de equilibrar la Lista y de aumentar su representatividad ello debe ser compatible con la posibilidad de continuar de forma moderada con la inclusión de bienes españoles en la Lista del





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Patrimonio Mundial. Todo ello sin perjuicio de la colaboración de todas las Administraciones Públicas españolas en las actividades de cooperación internacional necesarias para incluir bienes de otros países y mejorar la conservación de los mismos.

Paris, 20 September 2001

Subject: Representativity of the World Heritage List. Application of the resolution adopted in the General Assembly of States Parties 1999.

Sir,

In reference to your letter CL/WHC.4/01 dated 28 June 2001 and concerning the above mentioned subject, please find enclosed the report on the measures adopted by the Spanish State Party to contribute to the balance and the representativity of the World Heritage List.

I take the opportunity to reiterate the assurances of my highest consideration.

Francisco Villar  
Ambassador

## REPORT ON THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE SPANISH STATE PARTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EQUILIBRIUM AND THE REPRESENTATIVITY OF THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST.

This report aims at briefly analysing the application in Spain of the Resolution adopted by the twelfth session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris 28-29 October 1999).

Firstly, the sections addressed to the States Parties will be analysed separately. Secondly, the report will explain the Spanish State's decision on the necessity to apply these dispositions on a more moderate fashion, particularly the dispositions presented in the report of the 24<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee , Cairns, Australia (27 Nov-2 Dec 2000).

### **1. Analysis of the Resolution adopted by the twelfth session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris 28-29 October 1999).**

Point A.

#### **'Invites all the States Parties to:**

*iii) Prepare or re-examine their tentative lists in the light of the methodology developed and regional and thematic definitions by focusing on categories of heritage which are still under-represented on the List,'*

The Spanish State has fulfilled this "invitation" since it has reduced from 122 to 53 the number of properties in its tentative list. Due to its high political cost, such reduction should be valued, particularly in a country such as Spain, where political decentralisation and a widespread social awareness are important features.

*v) Give priority to the submission of nominations resulting from regional consultations in the categories under-represented that highlight notably the interaction between human beings and their environment and human beings in society, expressing the diversity and richness of living or past cultures.*

The current Spanish Tentative List contains definite cultural itineraries which are intended to be presented in collaboration with other countries belonging to the two areas where Spain has a major cultural protection, the Mediterranean and Latin America. *The Jewish Cultural Heritage and the Wine Route and culture in the Mediterranean villages* in the Mediterranean and *the Colombine Route* in Latin America are examples.

Point B

#### **'Invites the States Parties that already have a substantial number of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List to:**

*i) Apply paragraph 6 (vii) of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention:*

*a. by spacing voluntarily their nominations according to conditions that they will define, and/or*

The Spanish State undertook to only submit one application per year. It can be noted that in June 2000, the Spanish State only proposed one a new candidature *the Cultural Landscape of Aranjuez* and the amplification of one property already declared *the Mudejar of Aragon*, which evidently would not alter the representativity and the equilibrium of the List.

*b. by proposing only properties falling into categories still under-represented, and/or*

A close analysis shows that the properties that are included in the Spanish Tentative List are for the majority under-represented categories.

*c. by linking each of their nominations with a nomination presented by a State Party whose heritage is under-represented, or*

The Council of Historic Heritage decided during its meeting of 13 July 2001 to promote this type of co-operation through ICOMOS. This organisation undertook to channel toward the Autonomous Communities, projects concerning under-represented States' candidatures, which the Autonomous Communities agreed to support.

*d. by deciding, on a voluntary basis, to suspend the presentation of new nominations, and*

The Spanish State decided to apply this suspension in December 2000, at the time when no candidature was proposed.

*ii) Initiate and encourage bilateral and multilateral co- operation with States Parties whose heritage is still under-represented in the List within the framework of the preparation of tentative lists, nominations and training programmes,*

As already indicated, The Council of Historic Heritage decided during its meeting of 13 July 2001 to promote in collaboration with ICOMOS and the Autonomous Communities, this type of co-operation.

At the same type, Spain is currently negotiating an agreement on co-operation and technical assistance with the World Heritage Centre. Its main objective is to foster bilateral and multilateral co-operation with the State Parties whose heritage is under-represented. Naturally, this includes the preparation of the tentative lists, the elaboration of nominations and training programmes.

*iii) Give priority to the re-examination of their tentative lists within the framework of regional consultations and to the preparation of periodic reports.*

The Spanish State has fulfilled this “invitation” by reducing its tentative list from 122 to 53 properties. It has also to be noted that the Spanish State has begun to prepare the periodic report which has to be submitted in 2004-2005. The Spanish State entrusted ICOMOS-Spain with this work, establishing a four year workplan in which the Autonomous Communities will collaborate.

**2- Opinion on the application** of the report of the 24<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee , Cairns, Australia (27 Nov-2 Dec 2000).

The Spanish State supports a moderate and progressive application of the measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee. The process should not fall into a form of automatism which aims at a mathematically balanced World Heritage List through compulsory measures.

Spanish society must maintain a high level of awareness for the adequate conservation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage. Measures of rigid moratorium will have a negative impact on the awareness reached in Spain for the protection of Cultural and Natural Heritage.

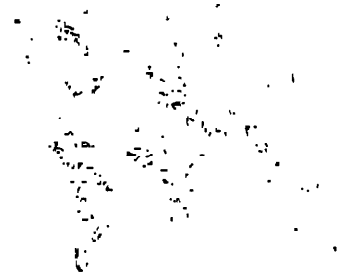
The Spanish State considers that if Spain is the country with the most properties included in the List, not only is it due to its great Heritage, but also because of the desire of its society to protect it, through the collaboration between the Spanish State and the UNESCO, and also to the great usefulness that this sort of declarations has had in Spain to establish Heritage conservation policies.

The Spanish State wishes to explain to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre that there are in Spain some expectations that should not be deceived if the Heritage needs to be efficiently protected.

Despite the fact that the Spanish State is aware of the necessity to balance the List and to increase its representativity, this must be compatible with the possibility to continue on a more moderate fashion the inclusion of Spanish properties in the World Heritage List, along with the close collaboration of all the Spanish Public Administrations in the activities of international co-operation for the inclusion of other countries’ properties and the improvement of the latter.



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Facsimile Transmission

To: MS. NINA DHUNAL  
WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

From: KEVIN BURNETT  
Office of International Affairs  
1849 C Street Northwest  
Room 2252  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Phone:  
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Phone: (202)565-1293  
Fax: (202)565-1290

Date: SEPT 19, 2001

Time: 10:40

No. of pages (including cover sheet): 3

Subject: MEMORANDUM

Message:



## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO

A3821(0050)

Ms. Nina Dharmal  
World Heritage Centre  
UNESCO  
7, Place de Fontenoy  
Paris, France

Ref: CL/WIIC.4/01

Dear Ms. Dharmal:

I am pleased to respond to Centre Director Bandarin's circular letter of June 28, 2001, to States Parties, requesting a report on measures taken to implement the resolution on the representivity of the World Heritage List that was adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of States Parties in 1999.

The United States views the representivity of the World Heritage List as intimately tied to the Convention's long-term credibility and has acted accordingly. The following actions on our part may be of interest.

- \* The United States has nominated no sites to the World Heritage List since 1994 and none are pending before the Committee.
- \* The United States helped to finance, organize, and sent experts to participate in the global strategy session for Anglophone Africa held in South Africa in fall 2000.
- \* The National Park Service advised the U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration on the organization of the session to propose measures to improve the representation of marine and island sites in the World Heritage List, which is being held in Manila, The Philippines, this month.
- \* Although as a matter of policy the U.S. does not directly assist other States Parties in the preparation of World Heritage nominations, assistance is occasionally provided or brokered that is useful toward that end. For example, assistance was rendered to Nepal in the preparation of a master plan and other work that facilitated the nomination of Shey Phoksundo to the World Heritage List.
- \* In the meetings of the Working Group on the Representivity of the World Heritage List, the United States offered the initial draft of the proposal to limit the number of nominations in a given year and to establish an order of priority for nominations. Such a policy was adopted by the Committee in Cairns, in December 2000.

We will continue to bear in mind the need to improve the representivity of the World Heritage List.

Sincerely,

  
Sharon J. Cleary  
Chief, Office of International Affairs

cc: Mr. Ray Wanner (IO/Department of State)  
Ms Shirley Hart (US UNESCO Observer)